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however, a text will be found which does not seem to support the author's view. Chapter IV. treats of syntactical dichotomy. The laws for the accentuation of the subject, the object, adverbs, prepositional phrases, the vocative, the verb, the predicate in nominal sentences, and conjunctions, under different circumstances, are given with their deviations. In Chapter V., the treatment of Sillûq, the presentation is something like this: The main dichotomy may come on the first word before Sillûq and be marked by Tîphhâ or 'Athnâh, the former being most common (Gen. II. 1; Isa. XXXVI. 1); on the *second* word, marked by 'Athnâh or Tîphhâ (for the latter, Gen. I. 13; Exod. XV. 18); on the *third* or *fourth* word, marked by 'Athnâh or Zâqêph; on the *fifth* word, always marked by 'Athnâh. The succeeding chapters take up the consecution of 'Athnâh, Zâqêph, and the remaining accents.

An interesting feature of the work is the list of texts, corrected by the rules laid down, in connection with each section. Nor are these corrections the work of conjecture. Not only do they, as thus amended, accord with the laws deduced, but in nearly every case MS. authority is found to corroborate the emendation. The arguments by which S'gholtâ is shown to be subordinate to 'Athnâh, and the proof that it is but a substitute under certain definite circumstances for Zâqêph are, taken together, convincing and conclusive.

It has been attempted to give a notice of the contents and spirit of this book. Further details cannot be added. Criticism, while on some points possible, is hardly gracious, in view of the great flood of light which our author, by his painstaking labors, has shed upon the subject of the accents. It is sufficient to say of this volume what Professor Driver has said of the first: "A more lucid or masterly exposition of a complicated subject could scarcely be imagined."

W. R. HARPER.

DELITZSCH'S ASSYRISCHES WOERTERBUCH.*

The first *Lieferung* of Delitzsch's *Assyrisches Woerterbuch* has at last made its appearance to the great delight of all Assyrian, as well as general Semitic, students. It consists of 168 large quarto pages, written in Delitzsch's characteristically plain hand. These pages carry us from א to אֲרָר. In his preface, the author states that he hopes to finish this work in ten such *Lieferungen* of 160 pp. each, i. e. in all, 1600 pp.

The author has compiled his lexicon in strict concordance with the rules laid down in his *Prolegomena*. These are in brief, 1) the explanation of the Assyrian by means of the Assyrian, references to be made to the other Semitic languages only when necessary to bring out the meaning more clearly, or for the sake of comparison; 2) the arrangement of the stems alphabetically and the placing of all derivatives under their respective stems; 3) the separation of the Proper Nouns from the lexicon proper; 4) the separation of the most important notes from those of less importance and from mere theories. The former are in

* ASSYRISCHES WOERTERBUCH ZUR GESAMMTEN BISHER VERÖFFENTLICHTEN KEILSCHRIFT-LITERATUR UNTER BERUECKSICHTIGUNG ZAHLREICHER UNVERÖFFENTLICHTER TEXTE VON Dr. Friedrich Delitzsch, Prof. ord. hon. für Assyriologie und Semitische Sprachen an der Universität Leipzig. Erste Lieferung. Leipzig: J. C. Hinrich'sche Buchhandlung, 1887. 4to. 168 pp. M.30

large type, the latter in smaller type, or classified as foot-notes. Naturally a great many things have been inserted which would not find place in a Hebrew or Arabic lexicon; for example, the publication *in extenso* of many unpublished texts. This was found necessary, because a great many texts had been published very imperfectly, and others of great importance had not been published at all. This method adds greatly to the bulk of the lexicon; and yet it is far preferable to that suggested by Prof. Lyon, viz.: that the texts should rather be published in different numbers of one of the journals devoted to Assyriology. It is, to say the least, the simpler and more convenient method of the two.

Although this lexicon appeared only last April, it has already received much criticism, both favorable and unfavorable, fair and unfair.¹

A book should, in so far as possible, be judged from the stand-point of the author, and not from that of the critic, or, to be more explicit, Delitzsch's *Assyrisches Woerterbuch* should be judged from what it professes to be, and not from what other people think it should be. The author announces that his book is to be a complete lexicon to all the inscriptions heretofore published, and to some—not ALL—unpublished inscriptions. One reviewer² is unreasonable enough to say in one column that the book should have been made a pocket-dictionary instead of what it is, and, a few lines below this statement, that the book is of no value because it does not contain *all* the words in *all* the unpublished and as yet unnumbered and even unwashed tablets in the British Museum. How long would we be compelled to wait if Delitzsch had not published his lexicon until all the tablets in the British Museum were classified and read? Mr. Pinches, with the assistance of others, has worked indefatigably during the last nine years to bring about this classification. And yet how many thousands of tablets remain untouched? Again, Mr. Smith should have criticized the fundamental principle laid down by the author in his *Prolegomena*, viz.: that the Assyrian should, in so far as possible, be explained by and through the Assyrian, instead of denouncing him because he has not filled his book with numerous comparisons from the Arabic, a language which is, relatively speaking, remotely related to the Assyrian.

Prof. Delitzsch has endeavored to arrange each word under its root in alphabetical order. No one can appreciate the difficulty of this work who has not made a similar attempt. The arrangement according to stems in the other Semitic languages must be considered as mere child's play when compared to the Assyrian. Our author has, in all probability, made many mistakes in this arrangement, and he himself is the last one to claim perfection for his work. Where he was in doubt as to the stem of a word, he has frankly admitted his doubt. His theories, in such cases, have been added in smaller type and in many cases with the greatest reluctance.

The author, so far as we have seen, has made no direct statements as to his present position on the Sumero-Akkadian question. As far back as the third edition of his *Assyrische Lesestuecke* (July, 1885), he has carefully avoided the terms Sumerian and Akkadian, preferring the more general and non-committal term "Non-Semitic." In Dr. Zimmern's *Busspsalmen*, he admits that more scientific methods and more convincing arguments must be used against the Anti-Akkadists

¹ Cf. Prof. D. G. Lyon's most fair and appreciative review in the *Proceedings of the American Oriental Society*, at Boston, May 1886; A. S. Smith, in the *Academy*, July 23, 1887; E. in the *Expositor*, Sept., 1887.

² A. S. Smith, in the *Academy*, July 23, 1887.

than have heretofore been used, if the Akkadists wish to win their points. From several indirect statements, however, one is led to believe that Delitzsch is gradually drawing nearer and nearer to the Anti-Akkadist school of Halévy. His remarks are still very guarded and only serve to make one inquisitive in respect to the real views of the author. All Assyriologists would be pleased to have a plain and concise statement of his *present* views on this question.

Another point, going hand in hand with the preceding, may be noticed, viz.: that the author explains as good Semitic many words hitherto regarded as loan-words. Nothing else could be expected, after the remarks made above. A ba is placed under the stem אִבָּה, and translated "Secretär," with the additional remark that there is no doubt that it is "gutsemitisch." Abkallu, with less emphasis, however, is also regarded as a good Semitic word—contrary to Haupt, who takes it as a loan-word—composed of ab + kallum, cf. pp. 32, 33. The author's treatment of abarakku, abrakku (pp. 69, 70) is new and interesting. On p. 72, the expressions bîti abtu, Tig. vi. 99 = "mein zerstörtes Haus" and ab-ta-a-ti, Neb. Bors. ii. 10, = "die zu Grunde gegangenen," are explained by placing abtu and abtâti under the root אִבָּה. Mr. Smith¹ in "The Borsippa Inscription of Nebuchadnezzar," along with a multitude of other false derivations, says: "This certainly means 'stories.' I think the root is פִּתַּח." He had evidently paid but little attention to Delitzsch's *Assyrisches Woerterbuch* before writing this article (it appeared in July, about two weeks before the review in the Academy) or he would have noticed the derivation given by Delitzsch. Cf. also *Assyr. Woerterbuch*, p. 109. Agurru from a stem אָגַר "to surround." Delitzsch distinguishes two agurru's (as he had already done in his "Vorlesungen"), viz: agurru, i. = "Umschliessung," "Einfassung," "Umkleidung," and agurru, ii. = "baked clay," "bricks," always used collectively.

On pp. 119, 120, new light is thrown on the difficult word adaguru which occurs in Nimrod Epos xi. 149. Cf. also êdlu from the stem אָדַל, instead of êtlu, pp. 150, sqq.

Many more interesting words and references could be cited, but lack of space forbids. In conclusion, it may be said that the first *Lieferung* contains even more material than could have been expected. The typographical execution is splendid. It is a monumental work and deserves the kind attention of all Semitic students. Many will not be able to agree with the author in all that he says, but all will recognize the hand of a master in this book. That the author's life may be prolonged until he brings this—his life's work—to completion should be the earnest wish of every Semitic student.

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TABEAU COMPARE DES ECRITURES BABYLONIENNE ET ASSYRIENNE.*

The body of the very useful and much needed work before us consists of a syllabary giving the archaic and the various modern forms of two hundred and ninety-six characters, to which, in a supplement, eleven are added, making a total

¹ In the *Babylonian and Oriental Record*, July, 1887.

* A. Amiaud et L. Méchineau, **TABEAU COMPARE DES ECRITURES BABYLONIENNE ET ASSYRIENNE ARCHAÏQUES ET MODERNES AVEC CLASSEMENT DES SIGNES D'APRES LEUR FORME ARCHAÏQUE**. Paris: Leroux. 1887. 12fr.